



**03.04.020**  
**Carriage of Firearms and Self  
Defense Products**

**Effective Date**  
February 1, 2018

**Version**  
2018.1

**Prepared By**  
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 **Approved By**  
General Manager

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## Purpose

To establish policy and procedure for carriage of firearms and self-defense products aboard AMHS vessels.

## Scope

Customer Service Agents, Terminal Agents, Purser, Loading Officers

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## Policy

- I. All passengers carrying firearms onboard an AMHS vessel must comply with all applicable laws and regulations<sup>1</sup>.
- II. All firearms and ammunition must be declared to the Purser prior to boarding the vessel.
  - a. Firearms are to be unloaded and kept in a locked case or vehicle.
  - b. All ammunition must be kept separate from the firearms.
  - c. Walk on passengers must surrender any and all firearms and ammunition to the Purser or loading officer for the duration of passage.
  - d. Passengers traveling with a vehicle may securely lock firearms and ammunition in their vehicle, however they must still declare them to the Purser.
- III. The following items are prohibited in public areas of the vessel:
  - a. Hunting bows and arrows (regardless of size or configuration)
  - b. Large knives defined as blades over four inches in overall length. For the purposes of this policy, a folding knife meeting this length when closed is considered to be four inches in length, machetes, hatchets or axes regardless of size,
  - c. Bear Spray and or any self defense products such as pepper sprays,
  - d. Stun guns and Tasers,
  - e. Empty holsters or gun cases.
  - f. Any item the Vessel Master considers inappropriate for the safety and well-being of passengers and crew.
- IV. For entry into the United States:
  - a. Passengers must properly and timely declare all firearms with U.S. Customs, using appropriate forms<sup>2</sup> as established by the Customs agency.
  - b. All firearm declarations and permits must be completed prior to arriving at U.S. Customs in Prince Rupert to avoid delays.
- V. For entry into Canada:
  - a. Passengers must properly and timely declare all firearms with Canadian Customs, using appropriate forms<sup>3</sup> as established by the Customs agency.
    - i. Failure to declare any type of weapon will result in seizure actions being taken by the Customs or local law enforcement agency.
    - ii. Any passenger not approved for acceptance into Canada **MUST** be transported back to the U.S. immediately, and may not stay in Canada until the next sailing.
  - b. Passengers should contact the Canadian Customs in Prince Rupert for questions regarding prohibited firearms into Canada as well as information regarding the pre-declaration of approved firearms.

- i. Pre-declaration forms should be completed prior to arriving in Prince Rupert on the ferry. Failure to complete and submit forms in advance may cause significant delays in the unloading process of the AMHS vessel.
- VI. A qualified law enforcement officer<sup>A</sup> may carry a handgun and ammunition in a concealed manner on the officer's person aboard an AMHS vessel if s/he:
  - a. immediately reports to the purser upon boarding the vessel and informs them that s/he possesses a handgun that s/he wished to conceal carry,
  - b. Provides the purser with required identification,
    - i. Required identification is defined as photographic identification issued by the governmental agency that identifies the individual as a currently employed law enforcement officer. Under no circumstances will expired LEO identification documents be recognized or accepted.
  - c. If in uniform, the officer may retain possession of their firearm,
  - d. If in civilian attire, Form 03.01.020A must be completed and maintained onboard for a period of not more than one year.
  - e. Otherwise conducts him/herself appropriately as determined by the Vessel's Master.
- VII. See P&P 03.01.011 regarding jurisdiction of law enforcement agencies.

## Responsibilities

- 1. Customer Service Agents and Terminal Agents:
  - a. Informs customers of firearm and self-defense products policy.
  - b. Directs customers as necessary to the appropriate Customs and/or law enforcement agency for further questions and/or to complete the proper forms.
- 2. Pursers and/or Loading Officers:
  - a. Follows guidance in above paragraph #1.
  - b. Is informed and keeps track of firearms and ammunition declared to them and contained within any vehicles.
  - c. Receives all firearms surrendered to them for the duration of the voyage, storing in a secure location approved by the Vessel Master.
  - d. Will be contacted by law enforcement officers wishing to conceal carry a handgun while onboard the vessel.
    - i. Ensures proper identification requirements and policy is met by the requesting law enforcement officer.
    - ii. If applicable provides Form 03.04.020A to requesting law enforcement officer, ensures it is completed and maintains the form onboard for not more than one year.

<sup>A</sup> Qualified law enforcement officer means a law enforcement or police officer who:

- 1. Is currently employed in such capacity by:
  - a. An Alaska state, municipal, or local government agency and who has successfully completed instruction and training at a police officer academy that is approved by the Alaska Police Standards Council; or
  - b. An agency within the executive branch of the federal government.
- 2. Is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detention, investigation, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of any person for any violation of law, and has statutory powers of arrest;
- 3. Is authorized by his/her agency to carry a firearm;
- 4. Is not the subject of any disciplinary action by his/her agency that could result in suspension or loss of police powers;
- 5. Meets standards established by his/her agency that require the employee to regularly qualify in the use of a firearm;
- 6. Is not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance; and
- 7. Is not prohibited by state or federal law from receiving a firearm.

## **Forms**

[Concealed Carry Declaration, Form 03.04.020A](#)

## **Revision History**

Supersedes Version 2017.1, September 1, 2017

Original Version 2017.1, September 1, 2017

CSP&P 20-17

## **References**

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<sup>1</sup> Safety Management System-Cargo Handling Manual, 2.3 Carriage of Firearms or Self Defense products by Passengers.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Government Form AFT 5330.3D

<sup>3</sup> Canadian "Non-Resident Firearm Declaration" Form CAFC 909, including if necessary; Canadian "Non-Resident Firearm Declaration Continuation Sheet" Form CAFC 910